

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A surgical instrument comprising;

an end effector which executes medical treatment;

a support having a proximal end which supports the end effector;

a base member which has distal and proximal ends, and pivotally supports the proximal end of the support on the distal end to enable the end effector and the support to be rotated together with respect to the base member;

an elongate member which has a proximal end and a distal end ~~on~~ at which the base member is located; and

an extended portion which is disposed in the distal end of the elongate member to ~~be extended with respect to the base member located in the distal end of the elongate member~~ prevent one of forward rotation and backward rotation of the base member with respect to the support, and also to extend and cover at least one side of the base member.

2. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 1, wherein the extended portion is disposed in the distal end of the elongate member to regulate rotation of the support pivotally supported by the base member.

3. (Previously Presented) The surgical instrument according to claim 2, wherein the extended portion is formed integrally with the distal end of the elongate member.

4. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 1, wherein the elongate member is a sheath, the sheath and the extended portion are formed integrally with each other, and the sheath and the extended portion are included in an insertion section inserted into a body cavity.

5. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 4, wherein the extended portion has ~~a slope~~ an annular distal end surface inclined ~~with respect to an~~ relative to a central axis of the sheath.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The surgical instrument according to claim 4,
wherein the sheath and the extended portion have rigidities to maintain shapes of the sheath and the extended portion when the elongate member is inserted into a biomedical tissue of a patient.

8. (Previously Presented) The surgical instrument according to claim 7,
wherein the elongate member and the end effector, have conductive areas to supply high-frequency power to the end effector, and are electrically connected to each other, and
the sheath has an inner tube, and an insulating outer tube which covers a full periphery of an outer peripheral surface of the inner tube.

9. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 4,
wherein the sheath is formed in a circular tube shape, and
a proximal end of the extended portion ~~has a slope in which a circular tube integrally~~
~~extended to the sheath is cut from the sheath obliquely in~~ is formed as a notch in the circular tube
shape with a bottom portion of the notch extending along a plane including the axial direction
central axis of the sheath.

10. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 4,
wherein the sheath is formed in a circular tube shape, and

a section of the extended portion orthogonal to the axis of the sheath has a circular arc shape.

11. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 4,

wherein the insertion section and the end effector have conductive areas to supply high-frequency power through the insertion section to the end effector, and are electrically connected to each other, and

the sheath and an outer peripheral surface of the extended portion are covered with an insulating member.

12. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 4, further comprising;

an operation section which rotates the end effector and the support pivotally supported by the base member with respect to the base member,

wherein the insertion section has first and second driving members which are arranged side by side, and which have distal and proximal ends, and is connected to the proximal ends of the first and second driving members so that the first driving member is driven to operate the end effector, and the second driving member is driven to rotate the support.

13. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 12,

wherein the end effector is a pair of jaws to be relatively opened/closed,

at least one of the pair of jaws is supported by the support, and

the support is connected to the distal end of the second driving member to rotate in one plane in an axis of the second driving member.

14. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 13, further comprising:

a sliding member which is supported by at least one of the jaws, and slid in an axial direction of the support to open/close the jaws, and

a connection member which has distal and proximal ends, the sliding member being connected to the distal end of the connection member to open/close the jaws, and the distal end of the first driving member being connected to the proximal end of the connection member.

15. (Previously Presented) The surgical instrument according to claim 12,

wherein the first driving member has conductive areas to supply high-frequency power to the end effector, and the first driving member and the end effector are electrically connected to each other, and

the sheath and an outer peripheral surface of the extended portion are covered with an insulating member.

16. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 15, wherein the proximal end of the first driving member has insulation.

17. (Previously Presented) The surgical instrument according to claim 4, further comprising an attaching/detaching mechanism which enables the sheath to be attached/detached to/from the insertion section.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 1, further comprising:

an end effector operation section which is disposed in the proximal end of the elongate member to operate the end effector; and

a rotation operation section which is disposed in the proximal end of the elongate member to rotate the support pivotally supported by the base member.

20. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 19, further comprising:

a first transmitting member which has distal and proximal ends, the proximal end being dynamically connected to the end effector operation section, and the distal end being dynamically connected to the end effector; and

a second transmitting member which has distal and proximal ends, the proximal end being dynamically connected to the rotation operation section, and the distal end being dynamically connected to the support.

21. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 20,

wherein the first transmitting member has at least a first part disposed in the elongate member and a second part disposed in the support, the first and second parts being dynamically connected.

22. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 20,

wherein the elongate member is a sheath, and the first and second transmitting members are inserted through the sheath.

23. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 1,

wherein the support comprises a pivot, and the end effector is supported by the pivot.

24. (Previously Presented) The surgical instrument according to claim 23,

wherein the end effector is constituted of a pair of jaws which are supported by the pivot, and relatively rotated by using the pivot as a rotary axis.

25. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 24, further comprising:

an opening/closing section which is disposed in the proximal end of the elongate member to open/close the pair of jaws relatively; and

a rotation operation section which is disposed in the proximal end of the elongate member to rotate the support pivotally supported by the base member.

26. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 25, further comprising:

a first transmitting member which has distal and proximal ends, the proximal end being dynamically connected to the opening/closing section, and the distal end being dynamically connected to the jaws; and

a second transmitting member which has distal and proximal ends, the proximal end being dynamically connected to the rotation operation section, and the distal end being dynamically connected to the support.

27. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 26,

wherein the first transmitting member has at least a first part disposed in the elongate member and a second part disposed in the support, the first and second parts being dynamically connected.

28. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 26,

wherein the elongate member is a sheath, and the first and second transmitting members are inserted through the sheath.

Claims 29-32 (Canceled)